

Psalm 133: Unity, oneness.

Here the Psalmist David described the beauty of unity that exists among brethren.

1: In this short pilgrim psalm David exclaimed how wonderful it is for believers to dwell **together in unity**. This thought was appropriate for the religious festivals when Israelite families came together to worship their Lord.

2: David compared the unity mentioned in verse 1 to the oil that consecrated Aaron in Leviticus 8:12. This imagery from the priesthood was appropriate because of the pilgrims being in Jerusalem. The oil poured **on Aaron's** head flowed **down** on his beard and shoulders, and onto the breastplate with the names of all 12 tribes. The oil thus symbolized the unity of the nation in worship, under their consecrated priest. As the oil consecrated Aaron, so the unity of the worshipers in Jerusalem would consecrate the nation under God.

3: David then compared the unity mentioned in verse 1 to **the dew** that covers the mountains. The picture of oil running down no doubt suggested dew coming down from Mount **Hermon** in the north onto **Mount Zion**. The dew of Hermon was heavy; it symbolized what was freshening and invigorating. The refreshing influence of the worshiping community on the nation was similar to the dew on vegetation. This was a fitting symbol of the Lord's **blessing** on His people.

I want the whole Christ for my Savior, the whole Bible for my book, the whole Church for my fellowship, and the whole world for my mission field. John Wesley.

John 17:20-22 – *“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; “that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. “And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one...”*

"Christians of all doctrinal shades and beliefs must come together in one visible organization, regardless... Unite, unite!" Such teaching is false, reckless and dangerous. Truth alone must determine our alignments. Truth comes before unity. Charles H. Spurgeon.

1 Corinthians 1:12-13 - *Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?*

There are two ways of being united -- one is by being frozen together, and the other is by being melted together. What Christians need is to be united in brotherly love, and then they may expect to have power. Moody's Anecdotes.

Ephesians 4:1-3 - *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

Psalm 134-135: Bless & Praise The LORD.

Addressing the priests and the Levites who kept watch at the temple, the pilgrim asked that heavenly blessings be given them from Zion.

1-2: A call on the priests, the Lord's **servants** who ministered in the temple (**the house of the LORD**), to praise Him with uplifted **hands**.

3: A prayer that the Creator (**the Maker of heaven and earth**); would **bless** them.

Psalm 135.

This song of praise is a mosaic of the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms. In it the psalmist called on the priests to praise the Lord.

1-3: Following the introductory **Praise the LORD**, the psalmist called the priests, the **servants of the LORD** in the temple, to praise Him. The preliminary reasons are that God is good and praise...is **pleasant**.

4-7: The reasons for praise given in verses 4-18 all stress God's sovereignty.

First, He chose Israel as His **treasured possession**.

Second, He is **greater than** all the pagan gods. So He is sovereign, doing **whatever pleases Him**, in **the heavens and on the earth**, including control over clouds...lightning, and **wind**.

8-12: This theme is now expanded in relationship to Israel's history. In the Exodus God defeated Egypt, smiting their firstborn (the 10th plague; after sending other signs **and wonders** (plagues 1-9).

God destroyed **nations and kings** to give Israel her land. Sihon and Og were two powerful **kings** the Lord helped **Israel** destroy just before they entered the land, which was their inheritance.

13-14: The sovereignty of God is then mentioned in reference to Israel's future history. The LORD, who is eternal, will **vindicate His people** because of His **compassion on** them.

15-18: If verses 8-12 correspond with verse 4, then verses 15-18 correspond with verse 5. The psalmist gave specific illustrations of the Lord's sovereignty over pagan gods. They were, he declared created by...**men**. Idols **cannot speak...see...hear or breathe**. Most importantly, they cannot save.

19-21: The psalmist reiterated his call for **Israel** and her priests (**house of Aaron**) and Levites (**house of Levi**) to **praise God from Zion**. The psalm closes with the same words with which it began - **Praise the LORD**.